Statement-II

Call charges and free calls

	Rural		Urban	
	Number of Calls (Monthly)	Rate/MCU (Rs.)	Number of Calls (Monthly)	Rate/MCU (Rs.)
(0	Upto 125 calls	Free	Upto 75 calls	free
(ii)	126 to 225 calls	0.60	76 to 200 calls	0.80
(iii)	226 to 250 calls	0.80	201 to 500 calls	1.00
(iv)	251 to 500 calls	1.00	Above 500 calls	1.20
(v)	Above 500 calls	1.20		

Telecom services in Andhra Pradesh

*279. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been taken any steps to provide/ improve telecom services in backward, rural and tribal areas of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) The Government is continuously taking steps to provide and improve telecom services in Rural, Backward and Tribal areas of whole country including Andhra Pradesh. All the telephone exchanges are of electronic type, with STD and Internet access facility. All of them except 4 in rural area are provided with reliable media.

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited has already provided telephone facility to 23401 villages in Andhra Pradesh as per target and 85 villages have been provided with telephone by private operator. All the villages in the country including Andhra Pradesh are proposed to be provided with telephone facility by end of 2002.

The district-wise details are given in Statement I, II and III.

Statement-I

District-wise plans and achievement of switching capacity in rural exchanges during 2001-2002

(As on 31.1.2002)

SI. No.	Name of District	Net Switching Capacity Plan	Net Switching Capacity added since 1.4.2001
1	2	3	4
1.	Adilabad	1656	480
2.	Anantapur	4352	2432
3.	Chittoor	5872	2096
4.	Cuddapah	1280	1392
5.	East Godavari	3000	1464
6.	Guntur	3969	1368
7.	Hyderabad	0	0
8.	Karimnagar	2384	1488
9.	Khammam	4784	2072
10.	Krishna	3120	3328
11.	Kurnool	3400	3600
12.	Mahabubnagar	5936	2328
13.	Medak	4104	488
14.	Nalgonda	6904	1400
15.	Nellore	5944	1272
16.	Nizamabad	2904	304
17.	Prakasam	3608	944
18.	Ranga Reddy	2112	1728
19.	Srikakulam	4496	1392
20.	Visakhapatnam	1840	1312
21.	Vizianagaram	3280	184

1	2	3	4
22.	Warangal West	3504	824
23.	Godavari	736	3512
	TOTAL:	79184	35408

1. *Provision of reliable media:* 160 stations have been provided with reliable media during this year. Reliable transmission media is provided to 2,371 rural exchanges out of a total of 2,375. Steps are being taken for provision of reliable media in the remaining 4 rural exchanges.

2. *M/W systems:* 75 systems with 670 route KMs are provided so far during the current year.

3. *OFC:* 254 systems with 2402 route KMs are provided so far during the current year.

Statement-II

District-wise achievements in rural areas of Andhra Pradesh Telecom Circle as on 31.1.2002

(Addition of New Exchanges, Direct Exchange Lines (DELs), STD PCOs & Local PCOs)

SI. No.	Name of District	No. of Rural Exchanges	Achievement in Rural areas 2001-02 (upto 31.1.2002)				Waiting list in Rural areas as on 31.1.2
			New Exchange	DELs	STD PCOs	Local PCOs	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Adilabad	80	0	554	29	80	2236
2.	Anantapur	128	1	565	42	28	3668
3.	Chittoor	146	1	2358	75	6	9165
4.	Cuddapah	94	1	2717	70	34	1945
5.	East Godavari	121	2	7792	82	266	3378
6.	Guntur	143	6	8247	219	93	7317
7.	Hyderabad	0	0	0	0	0	0
8.	Karimnagar	97	0	1918	169	35	4065
9.	Khammam	109	2	1541	180	64	4715

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10.	Krishna	130	2	7952	79	7	5763
11.	Kurnool	160	3	3176	89	89	723
12.	Mahabubaagar	140	7	2540	106	108	4164
13.	Medak	97	1	1173	32	88	8006
14.	Nalgonda	130	4	1403	165	94	111%
13.	Nelloic	119	3	3489	29	6	7343
16.	Nizamabad	91	5	5447	44	35	3190
17.	Prakasam	115	1	3502	34	29	5337
18.	Ranga Reddy	75	3	9076	0	62	6148
19.	Srikakulam	66	1	1455	67	10	4253
20.	Visakhapatnam	57	1	3668	71	15	3986
21.	Vizianagaram	62	1	1623	35	3	2102
22.	Warangal	70	3	1364	23	78	4723
23.	West Godavari	147	0	9011	73	106	2696
	TOTAL:	2377	48	79441	1713	1336	10611

Statement-III

Plan and achievement of tribal exchanges in Andhra Pradesh telecom circle during 2001-2002

(As on 31.01.2002)

9. No	Name of District	Net Switching Capacity Plan	Net No. Capacity added		of Tribal Plan
1.	Adilabad	1656	1656	2	Nil
2.	East Godavari	512	330	2	Nil
3.	Khammam	6268	2738	4	2
4.	Mahabub Nagar	456	52		Nil
5.	Srikakulam	NU	Nil		Nil
6.	Visakhapatnam	2008	632		Nil
7.	Vizianagaram	Nil	80		Nil
8.	Warangal	2056	Nil	3	Nil
9.	West Godavari	688	100		Nil
	TOTAL:	13644	5588	11	2

1. *Provision of reliable media:* 10 stations have been provided with reliable media during this year. Reliable transmission media is provided to 97 Tribal exchanges so far out of total 98. Steps are being

taken for provision of reliable medium to the remaining one Tribal exchange. All 98 existing tribal exchanges are provided with STD.

2. *M/W system:* One system with 6.1 route KMs is provided and the same is upgraded with OFC medium during the current year.

3. *OFC:* 18 systems with 299.644 Route KMs are provided so far during the current year.

Opposition to labour reforms legislation

*280. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether leading trade unions in the country have expressed their opposition to Government's move to labour reforms legislation;

(b) whether they have observed a protest day on 14th March, 2002;

(c) whether they are against the disinvestment of Blue Chip Public Sector undertakings like VSNL; and

(d) if so, what is Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) The Central Trade Union Organisations have been generally opposing amendments in labour laws unless these are perceived as beneficial to the working class.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) According to the Ministry of Disinvestment which is implementing the disinvestments of Public Sector Undertakings, the transaction relating to disinvestment in VSNL has been concluded recently and smooth transfer of management control to the Strategic Partner, Panatone Finvest Ltd. (Tata Group) has taken place on 13.02.2002.